

**COMPOSITES USEFUL AS FENCE AND DECKING
COMPONENTS AND METHODS FOR PRODUCING SAME**

Abstract of the Invention

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Composite fence and decking components, for example, rails, posts and planks, are provided which generally include a weatherable outer layer, a core layer made of a thermal plastic polymeric composition and a wood component in an amount effective as a filler, and an inner layer made of a thermal plastic material. The layers are configured so as to form a generally central hollow space. The components are light weight and inexpensive to manufacture. The components can be manufactured by using a single coextrusion process to produce a cylindrical form. The cylindrical form is passed through a reshaping die to form a composite having a desired cross sectional form, for example, a composite with a substantially square or rectangular cross section.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE